

# THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF SABBATH SCHOOL AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK.

By R. E. Magill, Secretary.  
The Executive Committee of Publication have pleasure in announcing the election of Rev. Gilbert Glass, D. D., of Johnson City, Tenn., as superintendent of Sabbath School and Young People's Society Work, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Rev. A. L. Phillips, D. D., who filled this position with great acceptance to the Church for about fourteen years. Dr. Glass brings to this position an equipment which promises much for the further development of this most important department of the Church's work.

He has behind him an unusual record as a faithful and successful pastor, and while modest and unassuming, he is rated as one of the most scholarly men of our Church. He is a vigorous and progressive man, but possesses rare tact in dealing with delicate situations, and his genial manner will win the friendship of old and young alike.

Dr. Edward Mack, now of Union Theological Seminary, who knew Dr. Glass while he was a pastor at Covington, Ky., writes:

"I have known Mr. Glass for some years, and hold him in high esteem, both because of his many talents, and for his excellency of character. He is highly endowed mentally, has been a

diligent and thorough student, and writes well. I have always regarded him as well equipped for a professor's chair in some college, and have often spoken to him of this. But he has preferred the pulpit and pastoral work. He has done splendid work in branches of philosophy and in English, besides his biblical studies. He has been a wide and critical reader. His papers, prepared for various ministerial and literary organizations in Cincinnati, were of rare excellence.

"Therefore, I feel confident that in range of information, facility of expression, spiritual power and enthusiasm for his duties and opportunities, he would come with preparation and fitness to the position you have in mind.

"He is a wise and safe counsellor; and among his brethren, and in councils and conventions would be at his best. I believe he would stir the interest and win the confidence of the courts and conferences of our Church."

Dr. Henry H. Sweets, a classmate and lifelong friend, writes:

"Rev. Gilbert Glass is the son of Rev. Harvey Glass, D. D., for many years one of the most faithful and useful ministers in the Synod of Kentucky. He was graduated from Central University in the class of 1895. He immediately entered the Kentucky Theological Seminary, where he graduated in 1898.

"During his college and seminary course he was a faithful student and exceedingly popular with his fellow students. He was one of the best players ever selected for the college baseball team.

"Wherever he has been in the pastorate he has rallied the young people around him and led them to deeper consecration and more earnest service. His work at Johnson City, Tennessee, has been peculiarly blessed in that regard. He has led the people in the building of a new, beautiful, commodious church, and has been the instrument in the large development of the life and work of the whole congregation.

He had in his Sunday-school thoroughly organized classes, alive for every good word and work. Possibly no more successful Men's Bible Class exists in any church in the General Assembly than the one in his church, composed of one hundred strong, live, active men."

Dr. Charles R. Hemphill, president of the Kentucky Theological Seminary, of which institution Dr. Glass is an alumnus, writes:

"I learn that the Committee of Publication has chosen the Rev. Gilbert Glass, D. D., to take up the work that fell from the hands of our lamented Dr. Phillips, and you will allow me to offer my warmest congratulations to the committee on this appointment. Dr. Glass seems to me to be qualified to an uncommon degree for the varied and difficult duties of the office to which he has been called. He combines the philosophic and the scholarly with the practical and the effective. He is a student of psychology and pedagogy in their modern forms, without being beguiled with some of their mistaken ideas and theories. He is in fullest sympathy with young people, and by his strong and gentle personality, his sound judgment, and his practical suggestions, he will speedily win their confidence and affection throughout the Church. Dr. Glass is faithful to the doctrines and spirit of our Church, while thoroughly alive to the currents of thought of our own time, and our people will soon come to look to him as their trusted leader in a field of Christian service second to none to-day in its importance to the kingdom of God."

Dr. Glass will enter upon his new duties about June 15th, and will remove his family to Richmond in the early fall.

We bespeak for Dr. Glass the cordial reception that was always accorded Dr. Phillips, and we ask that the Church be much in prayer that he may be richly blessed as he undertakes this great task in the interest of our young people.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Some Extracts From Annual Report. With grateful recognition of the goodness of God and of His abundant blessing on our Foreign Missionary work, the Executive Committee presents herewith to the General Assembly the fifty-fifth annual report of this work, together with the volume of its Minutes for the year ending March 31, 1916.

The total number of additions reported from all our fields is 3,768. This breaks all previous records with the

exception of last year, when the number reported was 4,059. The explanation of this falling off as compared with last year is found in the report from Africa, in which field the number of additions reported is 683 less than last year. The explanation of this falling off in Africa is that so large a proportion of the members of that mission were absent from the field on furlough or sick leave, making the necessary missionary visitation of the out-stations and villages for the reception of members impossible. The harvest is there and waiting, but there were not enough reapers to go out and gather it in. The increase in additions over last year in the other fields taken together was 372.

## GROWTH OF THE WORK ABROAD.

### General Totals For 1914 and 1915.

	1914-15.	1915-16.
Churches .....	\$354,120.15	\$356,200.89
Sunday-schools ..	25,064.82	23,702.22
Young People's Societies ..	4,759.87	3,792.13
Children's Societies ..	1,332.56	1,604.32
Women's Societies ..	87,465.35	90,860.95
Men's Societies ..	5,762.09	8,321.15
Miscellaneous .....	42,567.57	43,183.46
	\$521,182.41	\$527,665.12

Medical totals for 1915: 25 physicians, 13 trained nurses, 16 hospital plants, 7,451 in-patients, 1,967 major operations, 24 dispensaries, 172,002 out-patients, 179,527 persons treated, 314,750 medical treatments.

### A Ten-Year Comparison.

The returns for the past year from our foreign fields enable us to make the following remarkable exhibit of the growth of our Foreign Mission work for the past ten years, a growth that should inspire our warmest gratitude to God, and assure us of His guidance in, and blessing upon, our work, vouchsafed in answer to prayer.

The comparison made below, the percentage of increase of income from native sources is not given, because the report for 1915 includes certain items not called for in the report for 1905.

	1914.	1915.
Missionaries .....	339	358
Native workers .....	1,227	1,078
Out-stations, place of regular meeting ..	983	1,111
Organized congregations ..	462	601
Communicants .....	30,107	33,021
Additions .....	4,059	3,768
Christian constituency ..	103,946	122,578
Sabbath schools .....	543	626
Sabbath school membership ..	30,242	36,436
Schools .....	320	457
Students .....	12,340	16,012
Income from native sources .....	\$56,422	*\$113,298
Native students for the ministry .....	105	126
Missionaries' children ..		265

Since the young people are the chief hope of the future, especially in Foreign Mission work, it is with peculiar gratification that we call attention to the 361 per cent. increase of students, and the 590 per cent. increase in Sunday-school membership, shown above. It is noteworthy also that the income from native sources last year, which is never included in our treasurer's report of receipts, amounted to more than three times the cost of the home administration.

### Receipts.

The year's receipts for the regular work were \$507,802, and for specials outside the regular budget, \$26,880, totaling \$534,682. The total gifts from living donors during the last two years, \$521,182 for 1914-15, and \$510,684 for 1913-14. The total de-

ficit March 31, 1916, was \$62,766 as against \$63,287 on March 31, 1915, a decrease of \$521.

### Comparative Summary.

The following comparative statement shows the sources of our income from living donors during the last two years:

	1905	1915	Per cent Increase
Missionaries .....	206	358	74
Native workers .....	293	1,078	268
Out-stations, place of regular meeting ..	432	1,111	157
Organized churches ..	39	501	1,184
Communicants .....	10,824	33,021	205
Addition on confession ..	2,182	3,768	73
Christian constituency ..	27,531	122,578	345
Sabbath schools .....	92	626	580
Sabbath school membership ..	5,282	36,436	590
Schools .....	51	457	796
Students .....	3,471	16,012	361
Income from native sources .....	\$14,319	\$113,298	
Native students for the ministry .....	51	126	147

Any church organization mentioned as a society without further description is assumed by the treasurer to be a Woman's Society, and so reported. These figures of our treasurer are different from the figures that will be reported by the Women's Societies themselves to their sessions and by them sent up to Presbytery to appear in the Assembly's Minutes.

### Special Difficulties.

It is due the committee and the Church that some reference be made to the special difficulties which have taxed the ingenuity and fortitude of the committee and made necessary those extraordinary efforts which in turn have taxed the consecration and possibly the patience of the Church.

1. By the misuse, not the right use, of the Assembly's plan, hundreds of churches are shut against efforts to increase the Foreign Mission income.

For example, by special invitation, one of our secretaries visited an important congregation ministered to by an excellent man. As they gave the year before \$700 for Foreign Missions, he asked the pastor's permission to urge them to come up to \$1,200, and thus have their own foreign missionary. The pastor said it could not be done, because the Every Member Canvass was to be taken that week and the results divided according to an agreed-upon percentage. It was asked whether an effort could not be made, after the Every Member Canvass had been concluded, to bring the Foreign Mission offering up to \$1,200. This was impossible, the pastor said,

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